

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-11
DOE-15 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 NASA-02 NSC-05 SOE-02 SS-15 OES-07 NRC-07
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P 281513Z JUN 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2311
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02710

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: TSPA, UN
SUBJECT: OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE GENERAL DEBATE ON
JUNE 27: STATEMENTS BY CZECHOSLOVAKIA,US, BELGIUM,
FAO, COSPAR AND IAF

1. SUMMARY: THE OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE (OSC) CONTINUED
ITS GENERAL DEBATE ON JUNE 27 WITH STATEMENTS BY
CZECHOSLOVAKIA, THE US, BELGIUM, THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION (FAO), THE COMMITTEE ON SPACE APPLICATIONS
AND RESEARCH (COSPAR), AND THE INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL
FEDERATION (IAF). CZECHOSLOVAKIA, THE US AND BELGIUM
REITERATED THEIR POSITIONS ON SUCH TOPICS AS DIRECT
BROADCAST SATELLITES (DBS), REMOTE SENSING, AND THE
DEFINITION OF OUTER SPACE. THE FAO, COSPAR AND THE IAF
OUTLINED THEIR ORGANIZATIONS' ACTIVITIES. FRANCE SUB-
MITTED "WORKING PAPER" TO OSC ON NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES
IN SPACE, SETTING FORTH ITS VIEWS ON SAFETY ASPECTS. END
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SUMMARY.

2. CZECHOSLOVAKIAN REP JEZIL OPENED WITH A STATEMENT
CLOSELY PARALLELING WELL-KNOWN SOVIET POSITIONS. HE
NOTED CZECH-SOVIET COLLABORATION AND SOYUZ FLIGHT OF
CZECHOSLOVAK COSMONAUT VLADIMIR REMEK. ON DBS, JEZIL
NOTED "IMPASSE" IN THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE ON PRINCIPLE OF

"AGREEMENTS AND/OR CONSULTATIONS AMONG STATES" AND ASSERTED WITHDRAWAL FROM THAT PRINCIPLE IS "A STEP BACKWARD." ON REMOTE SENSING, HE EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF "RESPECT FOR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY" AND CALLED FOR AGREEMENT ON A "BALANCED FORMULA" ALONG THE LINES OF SOVIET PROPOSALS ON THE SUBJECT. JEZIL MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF A UN CONFERENCE ON OUTER SPACE AND NOTED THAT SUCH A CONFERENCE WOULD REQUIRE CAREFUL PREPARATION. HE SUGGESTED (1) UN BE REPOSITORY FOR ALL DATA FROM EXPERIMENTS DESIGNED TO COMMUNICATE WITH EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL CIVILIZATIONS--BOTH EXPERIMENTS DESIGNED TO RECEIVE SIGNALS OR SPACE PROBES TO SUCH CIVILIZATIONS AND (2) GUIDELINES FOR INFORMATION TO BE SENT BY STATES TO EXTRATERRESTRIAL CIVILIZATIONS, EMPHASIZE PEACEFUL AIMS.

3. US STATEMENT REVIEWED COOPERATIVE SPACE ACTIVITIES DURING PAST YEAR; BRIEFLY DESCRIBED THOSE ASPECTS OF US SPACE POLICY REVIEW OF PARTICULAR RELEVANCE TO OSC WORK; AND CHARACTERIZED US POSITIONS ON KEY AGENDA ITEMS (MOON TREATY, DBS, NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES, DEFINITION OF OUTER SPACE, AND PROSPECTIVE OUTER SPACE CONFERENCE.

4. BELGIAN REP DE BLEEKER STATED REMOTE SENSING DATA SHOULD BE DISSEMINATED AS WIDELY AS POSSIBLE AND THAT ALL STATES SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO ALL DATA, WARNED AGAINST UNCLASSIFIED

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ADOPTING TOO SIMPLISTIC AN ATTITUDE (ALLUDING TO SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR CLASSIFICATION OF DATA ON THE BASIS OF RESOLUTION) TO THIS COMPLEX QUESTION. DE BLEEKER THOUGHT SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE (STSC) SHOULD FURTHER STUDY THE QUESTION AND SUGGESTED THAT TECHNICAL ADVICE FROM GROUP OF EXPERTS UNDER THE STSC WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. ON DRAFT TREATY ON MOON, DE BLEEKER NOTED SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS TOWARD AGREEMENT ON TEXT. HE OFFERED HOPE THAT OSC COULD PRESENT TO THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY A CONSENSUS MOON TREATY TEXT. ON THE DELIMITATION OF OUTER SPACE, DE BLEEKER STATED TIME IS SOON COMING WHEN IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO DRAW THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE AREA WHICH COMES UNDER THE PURVIEW OF NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND THE AREA WHICH COMES UNDER THE PURVIEW OF SPACE LAW. HE SUGGESTED THE LEGAL STATUS OF GEO-STATIONARY ORBIT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH DELIMITATION OF OUTER SPACE AND THE TWO SUBJECTS SHOULD BE DISASSOCIATED FROM EACH OTHER. ON DBS, HE CALLED FREEDOM OF INFORMATION THE "TOUCHSTONE," BUT HE HOPED THERE COULD BE A COMPROMISE BETWEEN THE FREE COMMUNICATION OF IDEAS, NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY, AND REGULATION BY THE INTERNATIONAL TELE-COMMUNICATIONS UNION. ON NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES, DE BLEEKER

CALLED FOR DRAWING UP OF SAFETY STANDARDS. HE THANKED US FOR ITS WORKING PAPER, STATING US SAFETY STANDARDS SHOULD BE STUDIED, AND THE STSC AND LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE SHOULD STUDY PROBLEM.

5. FAO REP HOWARD, COSPAR REP DEWISSE, AND IAF REP GERARD MADE BRIEF STATEMENTS OUTLINING THEIR ORGANIZATIONS' ACTIVITIES AND PLANS. HOWARD STRESSED ACTIVITIES OF FAO'S REMOTE SENSING UNIT IN ROME; DEWISSE NOTED COSPAR'S WORK ON TECHNICAL MANUALS AND POINTED TO THE NEXT COSPAR PLENARY TO BE HELD IN BANGALORE, INDIA FROM MAY 29 TO JUNE 9, 1979; GERARD STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF SATELLITE RESOURCE SURVEYS AND SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS, AND NOTED

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INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
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THAT THE 29TH IAF CONGRESS WOULD BE HELD OCTOBER 1 TO 8, 1978 IN DUBROVNIK, YUGOSLAVIA.

6. FRANCE HAS SUBMITTED A "WORKING PAPER" TO OSC SETTING FORTH ITS VIEWS ON SAFETY ASPECTS OF USE OF NUCLEAR POWER IN SPACE. PAPER TERMS RISKS OF THE USE OF NUCLEAR POWER RELATIVELY MINOR COMPARED TO RISKS FROM OTHER USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY, BUT DEEMS IT ADVISABLE TO ESTABLISH INTERNATIONAL SAFETY STANDARDS FOR USE OF NUCLEAR POWER IN SPACE. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE MEANS SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED DEALING WITH NOTIFICATION UPON LAUNCH AND IN

CRISIS SITUATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO
EVALUATE AND LIMIT DAMAGE FROM ANY ACCIDENT INVOLVING
SUCH NUCLEAR POWER SOURCE.
LEONARD

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